

Andrew Jackson to Sarah Yorke Jackson, January 4, 1840, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

class=MsoNormal>TO MRS. SARAH JACKSON.

On Board The Steamer Vicksburgh , January 4, 1840.

My dear Sarah, I came on board this morning of this boat sent by the State of Mississippi to receive and take me and suit to Vicksburg. She shakes so badly that I fear you cannot read this scroll.

I have had a partial view of the tract of land, am well pleased with it, and the health of Mr. Howerton and family and the health of our negroes. a great deal of mony can be made by supplying the Steamboats with wood and I have instructed Mr. Howerton to keep in view a constant supply of wood on the bank until Andrew reaches him. I wrote Andrew last night and forgot to say to him, that another horse will be necessary for the farm with those already here, and by all means to have the mill brought on, as the toll for grinding now paid here 1/4 would feed one fourth of the consumers here, and save the time of a hand and horse going to mill. If Andrew is detained for the want of water let him employ Mr. Sharp in compleating the mill so that as soon as the Ginn wheel is made that the Mill may be started. say to Andrew to bring down the Husk frame of the mill entire which can be done by unframing it. this will greatly expedite the starting of the mill.

All that now is necessary is, to place this farm in a state of production to ensure a fortune and all our energies and means must be employed to this object, and every necessary oeconomy used to meet our debts, and to ensure to our little petts a handsome fortune,

Library of Congress

and you and Andrew the means of ease and plenty; and if providence permits me to live two years, with the smiles and continuous blessing of providence, I hope to see it realised.

If we should be fortunate this spring to get the Hermitage in a state of repair, we will send here for a season our best wood cutters. ten hands will cut twenty cords of wood in the day, that is worth in cash thirty dollars when sold. Shew this letter to Andrew, which I am sure will operate as a spur to his energy, and by our united energies will free us from pecuniary pressure soon.

My health has improved; kiss the little dear petts for me, and accept for yourself and present to Andrew, Thomas, and Emma my affectionate regards, and believe me your affectionate father

P.S. I hope Andrew may be able to sell Hunters Hill before he leaves.